



## MARION COUNTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

TERRY R. CURRY, PROSECUTOR

251 E. OHIO ST., SUITE 160

INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204

PHONE (317) 327-3522 • FAX (317) 327-3531

### Media Release:

April 24, 2015

### Contacts:

Peg McLeish (317) 327-5543; [peg.mcleish@indy.gov](mailto:peg.mcleish@indy.gov)

A.J. Deer (317) 327-5493; [anthony.deer@indy.gov](mailto:anthony.deer@indy.gov)

## **Man sentenced to 80 years for case of predatory online behavior that led to shootings**

*Danny Cherry targeted young Asian men and women on the city's southside*

(Indianapolis, Ind.) Marion County Prosecutor Terry Curry announced today that Danny Cherry has been sentenced to 80 years executed in the Indiana Department of Correction. Cherry was convicted by a jury on April 2, 2015, of 23 felonies including Attempt Murder, Stalking, Intimidation and Child Exploitation. Cherry admitted to using false identities on social media to target young men and terrorize their families on the southside of Indianapolis.

Cherry portrayed himself as young men and women on multiple social Facebook accounts to obtain addresses and phone numbers of his victims, targeting young men and women of Asian descent. He then made multiple phone calls and sent Facebook messages to each victim in an attempt to harass them into sending sexually explicit pictures of themselves or provide contact information about other members of their community under the threat of harm to the victims and their families.

"This case is a scenario that every parent fears. Mr. Cherry preyed upon young people, targeted for their cultural background, and he did so using online social media to portray himself as their peer," Marion County Prosecutor Terry Curry stated. "We commend the detectives who worked on this case, particularly the IMPD Cybercrimes Unit, for their diligent work in tracking Mr. Cherry through a sophisticated web of technology that he used to conceal his true identity."

Cherry was convicted of Criminal Recklessness and sentenced to 10 years for shooting into the home of one young man on January 4, 2014. Two days later, Cherry shot another young man's father when he answered the front door of the family's home. He was convicted of Attempt Murder and sentenced to 40 years for the second shooting.

The arrest of Danny Cherry is the result of a multi-state investigation by the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department detectives and cybercrimes unit and the Madison County Sheriff's Office in Huntsville, Alabama.

*A charge of a crime is merely an accusation, and the defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.*